

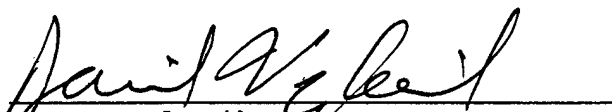
REMARKS

Claims 15-19 and 22-30 are pending in the present application. Claims 22-30 were canceled; and claim 31 was added. Examination of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: September 22, 2000

Respectfully submitted,



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